(b) The old bridge which consisted of 14 x 18.3 metres girders each of Up and Down lines was completely damaged resulting in washing away of all 28 girders and uprooting/shearing of the 13 piers.

(c) A temporary bridge was constructed to restore single line working, and traffic was restored on 27.9.76. Double line working on temporary bridges was introduced on 2.11.76 and the permanent new bridge in replacement of the old bridge was opened to traffic on 9.5.77.

National Highways during Seventh Plan

1830. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no road in Karnataka has been declared as National Highways for the last twelve years;

(b) whether proposals were invited from different States for making new additions to the existing new highways system while formulating Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, what are the names of States who sent the proposals and what are the details of roads in kilometres ir each State, which are likely to be declared as National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Compulstory moral education in Schools and Colleges

1831. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make moral education compulsory in all the schools and colleges in the country for the development of human resources; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SMT. SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) Promotion of national and individual character is an important aim of the curriculum at the school stage. During the Seventh Five Year Plan period, it is intended that the curriculum, textbooks and teacher training programme should be strengthened further in this regard. Similar value-orientation to the first degree courses offered by Colleges is visualised in the Seventh Plan.

Shortage of Urdu text books

1832. SHRI SHAMIM AHMED SIDDIQI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the shortage of the text books in Urdu;

(b) whether Government propose to assign the job of publishing the Urdu text books to the Urdu Academies; and

(c) if not, what other steps Government propose to take to overcome the shortage of Urdu text books?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SMT. SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) The preparation, production and prescription of textbooks at the school stage is the responsibility of either the State Education Departments or the Boards of Secondary/School Education. This Ministry has, as such, no specific information which would indicate that shortage of text books in Urdu is being experienced in different States.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training has undertaken preparation as well as translation in Urdu of the text books which it has prepared and which are being used in Kendriya Vidyalayas and schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi. While